IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows.

Please replace paragraph [0005], on page 2, with the following:

[0005] The use of antimicrobial agent-bearing intervention devices has been proposed for the management of nosocomial blood stream infections. Antimicrobial agents such as iodine, ~~trilosan~~ triclosan and ageon have long been used in medical practice as disinfectants, with iodine having been discovered to be one of the most effective antiseptics in the 1870s. Recently, iodine-bearing formulations have been developed that may be applied to, or incorporated into, medical devices to provide controlled in-situ release of iodine as an antimicrobial agent. One potential application of such formulations is an iodine-bearing polymeric rod that can be inserted into a catheter, where the rod delivers iodine to the catheter in order to manage catheter-based nosocomial bloodstream infections. In this example, an iodine-bearing polymeric intervention device is placed within an indwelling catheter. As a result, elemental iodine may be released to diffuse to the catheter wall, and if the catheter wall material is semi-permeable, to diffuse through the catheter wall to the exterior surface of the catheter. Thus, the iodine may be made available to eliminate micro-organisms on both the inner and outer micro-surfaces of the catheter.